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### MTPR reporter wins award for report on poverty

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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July 2, 2007

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### **MTPR REPORTER WINS AWARD FOR REPORT ON POVERTY**

#### **MISSOULA—**

Kevin Maki, a reporter for Montana Public Radio, has won the 2007 E.B. Craney Award for Noncommercial Radio Program of the Year from the Montana Broadcasters Association.

The awards, which are presented annually, recognize excellence in local news, production, promotion and public service.

Maki won the award for his report "Sunday Dinner with Betty," which was part of an ongoing series of reports on poverty in Montana funded by the Northwest Area Foundation and broadcast during MTPR's Montana Evening Edition.

He profiled 90-plus-year-old Betty Irvine of the Bitterroot Valley who has outlived her savings and now relies on the public pantry to get by.

"Kevin is the ideal reporter for a series on poverty," said Sally Mauk, MTPR news director. "He has a natural empathy and compassion that takes the listener beyond the surface of the circumstance, to the humanity of the people he's covering. Kevin knows that's the crux

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of understanding – and solving – poverty. We're so pleased his outstanding work has been recognized with the Craney award. It couldn't be more deserved.”

The award was presented June 23 at ceremonies at the association's annual convention in **Big Sky**. Named after pioneer Montana broadcaster and founder of the Greater Montana Foundation, E.B. Craney, the awards are presented to Montana broadcasters in commercial and noncommercial television and radio.

MTPR is a public service of The University of Montana and is housed in UM's Broadcast Media Center.

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